

of the American contingent is concerned, it will not be able to make a dent in their line. Will they think only in the present and laugh at the little Yankee army, or will they view it as the first physical manifestation of a mighty nation springing to arms against them—a nation mightier than their own and firmly resolved to fight them to a finish. Should this latter thought obtain in the minds of the stolid Germans, the contemplation of its awful possibilities should shatter their faith in themselves and the empire will begin to tremble under the weight of its own misgivings.

### The Same Old Story

WE sometimes wonder whether Utah wasn't born under an unlucky star. This for the reason that, no matter what she does of a creditable character, some agency—human or otherwise—so twists the circumstances that about all the state gets for her trouble is a black eye.

The erroneous ranking of Utah in the Red Cross campaign is just another instance of the unkind fate that seems to follow her. The statement was given out from the national Red Cross headquarters the other day that Utah's total contribution to the cause was but \$319,700, or 73 cents per capita. There seems to be a discrepancy of something over \$200,000 between the organization's account and our own. To them it may be a mere mistake of small figures—an inconsequential item in the grand total of the nation's contributions—but to the people of Utah it is a matter of extreme importance.

We were not prompted to make our matchless contribution to the Red Cross simply to gain an honor mark in the sisterhood of states; but surely, after our magnificent outpouring of generosity—which exceeded the amount requested by the national committee by upwards of \$200,000—we did not expect to be decorated with the badge of dishonor. Even the devil is entitled to his dues but surely we can base our claims on higher grounds.

It may only be a technical mistake in figures and then again, it may not. Our misgivings are founded on the fact that all through Red Cross week, when Utah was making her wonderful drive and was really acting as the pace-maker of the nation, the national dispatches did not contain a single substantial mention of the fact. Other states, that were trailing far behind in the dust of the drive, were given a daily prominence that they did not deserve.

We should like to see "The Committee of 130" take the matter in hand and have the error acknowledged in bold type in the national dispatches. It can be done and it will pay them for their trouble.

Also, the congressional delegation should take notice of the situation and lay it plainly before the country. Why would not this apparent discrimination against the state make an excellent subject for a stirring oration by one of our able senators or representatives?

### The Cabinet

IT was to be expected that sooner or later the members of the President's official family would come to a serious disagreement. As now constituted, the cabinet lacks the poise that goes with proficiency and it is only a matter of time until it will have to be reorganized with the sole object in view of prosecuting the war along the most practicable lines.

We do not know the real basis of contention between Secretaries Baker and Daniels on the one hand and Secretary Lane on the other. Their controversy is said to be confined to a gentlemanly dispute over the price that the government should pay for the coal it will use for war purposes. There is a well-founded suspicion,

however, that the cause of the disagreement goes deeper and that the real object is to discredit Secretary Lane. The able Secretary of the Interior is universally recognized as the big man of the cabinet. He is intensely popular throughout the length and breadth of the nation and is said to command the close ear of his chief. Contrarywise, the Secretary of the Navy has been hammered from h—l to breakfast by both the press and the people, and Secretary Baker has fared little better.

And so it does not require a microscope to detect the main root of the trouble that threatens to divide the cabinet into two bitterly antagonistic factions. Then, too, it has also become apparent that certain members of the cabinet do not take kindly to the activities of the national council of defense and that a rupture of their relationship is imminent. This was bound to come, for the latter organization is composed of the really big men of the nation—men who are accustomed to getting results and who will not long tolerate the red tape of officialdom. They want action and if their services are to be retained by the government they must be permitted to act directly and on their own responsibility.

The only solution to this acute situation seems to imply a speedy reorganization of the cabinet,

### STAFF OF OUR FLAG

By Will Carleton.

STAFF of our flag! you are sturdy and strong,

Like the people whose hands and whose hearts must uphold you!

You cling to the colors, through tempests of wrong,

Or when 'mid the zephyrs of peace they unfold you.

On many a field you have scorned e'er to yield,

For the hearts of the brave were your sword and your shield;

And you promise for ages to stay in your might,

'Till the world gathers round you—firm standard of right.

wherein the strongest men of the nation will be given the portfolios to which they are particularly adapted. The President's loyalty to the men whom he gathered around him in a time of peace is admirable and the patience he has exercised with several of them passes all understanding. We wonder how he stands the strain. He is entitled to the very best counsel that the country affords, but he can only obtain this by weeding out the weak spots in his cabinet and selecting their successors without regard for personal favors or political interest.

### A Shameful Situation

IT would seem that a great many members of Congress are as cowardly at heart as they are inconsistent in action. Certainly, their manifest determination to shift the responsibility of making a decision on the prohibition question unto the President's shoulders, can be considered only as a most contemptible piece of business. The act does not become Congress and it is to be hoped that Senator Borah and the men who have the nerve to stand with him will be able to marshal enough strength to block the cowardly tactics of these petty statesmen.

It is indeed unfortunate that at this time, when the nation is facing the greatest crisis in its history, it should be handicapped by a congress com-

posed for the most part of men of mediocre ability and utterly lacking in the kind of moral courage that is essential to true statesmanship. How different this congress from that which fixed the foundation of the great republic. It was Lord Chatham who said, in speaking of the character of the Continental Congress: 'For myself, I must avow, that in all my reading—and I have read Thucydides and have studied and admired the master-states of the world—for moral courage, solidity of reasons, force of sagacity, and wisdom of conclusion, under a complication of difficult circumstances, no nation or body of men can stand in preference to the General Congress at Philadelphia. The histories of Greece and Rome give us nothing to equal it.'

We wonder what the great Pitt would say of the present American Congress, were he alive today and in full possession of the facts. There are sound minds and great hearts in that body, true enough, but they happen to be in small minority and do not seem to be able to control the acute situations that arise from time to time to the vexation of the administration and the detriment of a clear and well-defined war policy. The apparent effort of Congress to shift responsibility is just as unpardonable as the abject surrender of its expressed functions. There is a crying need for bigger men in that body.

### A Grave Offense

IN company with all sound thinking citizens, we believe in universal suffrage for women. Moreover, the militant campaign which the suffragists have been waging is justifiable up to a certain point, but no further. There is a limit to which they can carry their dramatic demonstrations and yet keep within the bounds of propriety. Take the White House "pickets" for instance: So long as the president was disposed to tolerate their silent protest, their activities were excusable on the grounds that a woman's whims passeth all human understanding. But when they undertook to interrupt the visit of the Russian emissaries the other day and create prejudice by means of deliberate misrepresentation, it was time to call a halt.

Fortunately for the country, and for the future welfare of the suffragist cause itself, the scene which these few intrepid women created was soon quenched; and the whole affair has since been disavowed by the really representative leaders of the woman's party. It would seem that the militant element of this organization ought to realize that a state of war has changed the usual order of things, and that the person or party that seeks to harass the government at such a time as this is sadly lacking in certain qualities essential to good citizenship. Now is a poor time to press the suffrage issue at Washington, and there is a possibility of serious damage being done to the cause unless the conservative element of the female crusaders are able to curb their more temperamental sisters.

In our humble opinion, the American suffragists could do no better than follow in the footsteps of their English sisters. The latter won their fight by voluntarily laying down their arms at the outset of the war and rallying to the support of the government. And so, what they had failed to win in all their years of smashing rowdism came to them as a reward for faithful service in the defense of the empire and the civilization of the world. It should prove a splendid object lesson for some of our American women.

CONTEMPORARY reminds us that in 1835 it was first discovered that a locomotive could climb a grade. Well, to listen to the loud-mouthed agitators that contaminate the country, one would think that railroads have not been "run on the level" since that date.